

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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PANAMA FOR GAO DE MARCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AGAO, MX

SUBJECT:GAO COUNTRY COGNIZANCE SURVEY OF MEXICO

1. DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN INFORMED BY THE GAO OF ITS PLANS TO CONDUCT A COUNTRY COGNIZANCE SURVEY (SELF-INITIATED INFORMATION-GATHERING SURVEY) OF MEXICO. THE OBJECTIVES OF A "COUNTRY COGNIZANCE SURVEY" ARE TO PROVIDE A MEANS FOR THE GAO TO KEEP ABREAST OF IMPORTANT U.S. ACTIVITIES IN AND ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS WITH SELECTED COUNTRIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, SO THE GAO MAY BE CURRENTLY AWARE OF ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN U.S. POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENTS AND TO OBTAIN INFORMATION USEFUL FOR PLANNING PURPOSES. IN THIS SURVEY, EMPHASIS WILL BE PLACED ON OBTAINING AN OVERVIEW OF SUCH MATTERS AS:

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--GENERAL ECONOMIC CONDITIONS INCLUDING TRADE RELATIONS AND ACTIVITIES, TOURISM AND THE IMPACT OF U.S. DOMESTIC ECONOMIC DECISIONS ON THE MEXICAN ECONOMY.

--POLITICAL RELATIONS INCLUDING MEXICO'S ROLE IN THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, JURISPRUDENCE ISSUES, AND THE INTERNAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL PHILOSOPHIES OF

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IN MEXICO.

--BORDER PROBLEMS INCLUDING IMMIGRATION, NARCOTICS AND ARMS SMUGGLING, FISHING RIGHTS, AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS.

--U.S. SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS INCLUDING MEXICAN MILITARY RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

2. THE GAO TEAM CONSISTING OF MESSRS. ROBERT BRADY, GEORGE SALVATIERRA AND KARL DIEBEL PLANS TO VISIT MEXICO CITY FOR TWO WEEKS BEGINNING MAY 16, SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE EMBASSY. MR. GEORGE DE MARCO, GAO REGIONAL DIRECTOR IN PANAMA WILL MAKE A SUPERVISORY VISIT TO MEXICO CITY DURING THE LAST DAYS OF THE SURVEY. DATES OF HIS VISIT WILL BE TELEGRAPHED WHEN KNOWN. DEPARTMENT CERTIFIES THAT ALL GAO PERSONNEL HAVE TOP SECRET CLEARANCE.

3. THE GAO TEAM WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH THE CHARGE AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNTRY TEAM. TO THE EXTENT BELIEVED APPROPRIATE BY THE MISSION, GAO WOULD WELCOME OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH U.S. BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES AND MEXICAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. GAO IS AWARE THAT CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN OFFICIALS ARE AT THE DISCRETION OF AND TO BE ARRANGED FOR BY THE EMBASSY AND EMBOFF TO ACCOMPANY, IF FEASIBLE.

4. PLEASE RESERVE 3 SINGLES WITH BATH AT CONVENIENT HOTEL WITHIN PER DIEM ALLOWANCES, IF POSSIBLE, BEGINNING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAY 15. REQUEST CONFIRMATION OF RESERVATIONS AND NAME OF HOTEL. TRAVEL PLANS WILL FOLLOW IN SEPTEL.

5. IT IS THE DEPARTMENT'S POLICY TO COOPERATE WITH THE GAO IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GUIDELINES SET FORTH IN 4 FAM 930-934. QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS ARISING DURING THE COURSE OF THE VISIT SHOULD BE REFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT.

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